

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 00314 281353Z

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 RSC-01 /023 W

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R 281302Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1184

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 0314

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, US, SF

SUBJECT: CODEL

REFERENCE: PRETORIA 0278

WITH REGARD TO VISITING SIX-MEMBER CODEL, FOLLOWING STORY  
APPEARED IN RAND DAILY MAIL JANUARY 28 UNDER HEADLINE QTE  
SA IS OUR FRIEND, SAYS U.S. VISITOR UNQTE:  
QTE UMTATA- SOUTH AFRICA WAS THE BEST FRIEND THE UNITED  
STATES HAD, THE LEADER OF THE CONTROVERSIAL PARTY OF TOURING  
AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN, MR. BOB WILSON, SAID IN UMTATA YESTERDAY  
DURING A BREAK IN THEIR HECTIC SCHEDULE.

" WE ARE HERE," MR. WILSON SAID, " BECAUSE WE ARE INTERESTED  
IN SOUTH AFRICA AND WE FEEL IT IS THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD  
FRIEND THE UNITED STATES HAS."

HE DENIED THAT THE SIX CONGRESSMEN AND FIVE WIVES HAD COME  
OUT WITH ANY PARTICULAR MOTIVES OTHER THAN TO MEET PEOPLE  
AND PURSUE THEIR OWN INTERESTS.

" THE RUMOUR THAT WE WERE HERE TO STUDY DEFENCE PROBABLY  
AROSE BECAUSE TWO OF US- MR. WILLIAM WHITEHURST AND MYSELF-  
ARE ON THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE," MR. WILSON SAID.

HE CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS TO HAVE TALKS WITH NAVAL LEADERS  
IN CAPE TOWN ABOUT THE RUSSIAN PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

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PAGE 02 PRETOR 00314 281353Z

BUT HE WOULD BE MORE INTERESTED IN SEEING THE KIRSTENBOSCH

GARDENS, MR. WILSON SAID.

" I AM RETIRING IN A FEW YEARS AND I WANT TO START A PROTEA FARM. I WANT TO BE THE PROTEA KING OF CALIFORNIA," HE SAID.

MR. WILSON SAID HE AND HIS PARTY WOULD BE MEETING GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN CAPE TOWN THIS WEEK. HIS IMPRESSION SO FAR WAS THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS AN ENLIGHTENED GOVERNMENT.

WHILE IN UMTATA YESTERDAY THEY MET THE CHIEF MINISTER OF THE TRANSKEI, PARAMOUNT CHIEF KAISER MATANZIMA, AND MR. WILSON THOUGHT HE, TOO, WAS ENLIGHTENED. THE CHIEF MINISTER HAD CRITICIZED SOME EMERGENT AFRICAN STATES WHICH HAD ATTACHED THE MAJOR POWERS IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PARTY- WHICH WILL BE IN SOUTH AFRICA NEARLY TWO WEEKS- ARE MR. CLAIR BURGNER, MR. WILLIAM KETCHUM, MR. PHILIP CRANE AND MR. NORMAN LENT. UNQTE.  
HURD

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